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1947.

ANNUAL REPORT
AND
VITAL STATISTICS
OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT OF KNUTSFORD.

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BY

E.M.BURRELL,

M.B., Ch.B.,

Medical Officer of Health for the

Urban District of Knutsford.

KNUTSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillors W. Shaw, - Chairman.
F.W.W.Floyd,J.P. Chairman of the Council.
A.E.Percy.
F.Butler.
H.Darlington.
R.H.Davis.
Mrs.M.Dixon.
F.Jennings.
T.S.Meachin.
J.Norbury.
E.S.Thomas.
Mrs.K.M.Wakefield.

Co-opted Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Mrs.J.Ackerley.
Mrs.J.N.Ellis.
Mrs. M. A. Lewis.
Mrs.G.B.Mason.

E.MORLEY,

Clerk to the Council.

( ) + E.M.Burrell, M.B.
Medical Officer of Health.

X + Geo. R. Butler, M.S.I.A.,A.R.San.,I.
Surveyor, Sanitary Inspector &
Cleansing Superintendant.

( ) A.E.Lees, M.B., Ch.B.,
Medical Officer, Child Welfare
Centre.

( ) Part Time.
\+ Salary Contribution by Exchequer Grants.
X Whole Time.

PART 1.

Area of District, 2, 491 Acres.
Height above Sea level 210 feet.
Registrar General's estimate of Population 5, 910.
Number of Inhabited houses (end of 1947) per rate book 1,848.
Rateable value £45, 990.

Sum represented by a penny rate - Gross - £191,12.10d.
Nett - £183, 0. 0d.

Birth rate per 1000 living 16.2
General Birth Rate (England & Wales) 20.5
Death rate per 1000 living 11.5
General Death Rate (England & Wales) 12.0
Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth, 0
Deaths under 1 year in proportion to 1,000 Births 52
" " " " " " " "
(England & Wales) 41
Deaths from cancer 13
Deaths from Measles 0
Deaths from Whooping Cough 0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years old) 0

The total number of deaths from all causes was 68 of which 34 were persons over 65 years of age, and 5 were children under 1 year old.

PART 11. TABLES.

TABLE 1.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1947 and three previous years.

Year.	Population. For Birth Rate.	Population. For Death Rate.	Births. No.	Births. Rate.	Nett Deaths Belonging to the District. Under 1 yr of age. No.	Under 1 yr of age. Rate.	At all ages. No.	At all ages. Rate.
1944	5718	5718	96	16.8	3	51.0	73	12.8
1945	5620	5620	95	16.9	6	63.0	74	13.2
1946	5856	5856	100	17.1	6	60.0	86	14.7
1947	5910	5910	96	16.2	5	52.0	68	11.5

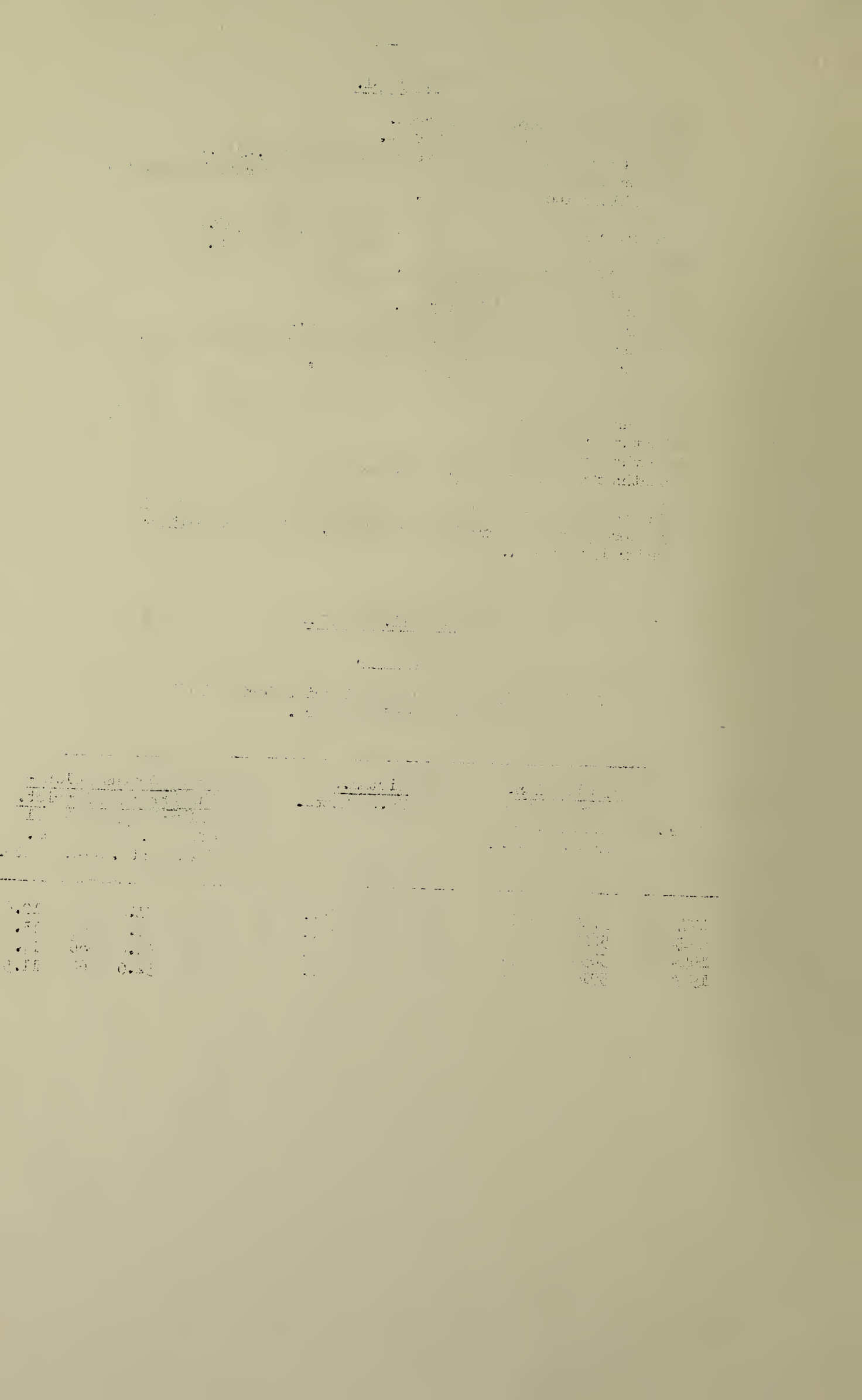

TABLE 11.

Diseases Notified under Acts and Orders during 1947.

Notifiable Diseases.	At all ages.	Number of Cases Notified. At Ages - Years.							Total Cases removed to Hospital.
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Measles.	15	1	10	4					
Diphtheria (including Membraneous Croup).	1			1					1
Erysipelas.									
Scarlet Fever.									
Whooping Cough.	4		2	2					
Puerperal Pyrexia.									
Cerebro-Spinal Menigitis.	2				1	1			2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.									
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	2				1		1		
Other forms of Tuberculosis.	2			1	1				
Pneumonia.	3						1	2	1
Chicken Pox.									
Poliomylitis.	2		1	1					2
TOTALS.	31	1	13	9	3	1	2	2	6

TABLE 111.

Deaths Registered during the Calendar Year 1947, classified by age and cause.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoining ages of "Residents" whether occuring within or without the District.									Total deaths whether of residents or non-residents in Institutions in the District.
	All ages	Under 1 yr	1 to 2 yrs	2 to 5 yrs	5 to 15 yrs	15 to 25 years	25 to 45 years	45 to 65 years	65 and upwards	
All Causes (Certified	68									
(Un- "	0									
Enteric Fever (Para-B)										
Small-Pox										
Measles.										
Scarlet Fever.										
Whooping Cough.										
Diphtheria & Croup.										
Influenza.										
Encephalitis Lethargica.										
Erysipelas.										
Cerbro-Spinal Fever.										
Phthisis (Pul. Tub.)										
Tuberculosis Menigitis.										
Other Tuberculous Dis.										
Cancer, Malignant Dis.	13						1	6	6	
Diabetes.										
Rheumatic Fever.										
Menigitis.										
Aneurism.										
Organic Heart Disease.	6							4	2	
Bronchitis.	2					1		1		
Pneumonia,(all forms).	1							1		
Other Dis. of Resp.Organ.	1				1					
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.	2							2		
Other Digestive Dis.										
Diarrhoea and Enteritis. (under 2 years).										
Appendicitis & Typhlitis.										
Cirrhosis of Liver.										
Other Liver Diseases.										
Cerebral Haemorrhage.	6						2	1	3	
G.P.I.Tabes, etc.,										
Alcoholism.										
Syphilis.										
Nephritis & Bright's Dis.	1							1		
Arterio-Sclerosis.	12							4	8	
Puerperal Fever.										
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition.										
Congenital Debility & Malformation including Premature Birth.	5	5								
Violent Deaths, exclud -ing Suicide.										
Road Accidents.	2							2		
Suicide.										
Senility.	14								14	
Other Defind Diseases.	3						1	1	1	
Diseases ill-defined or unknown.										
Totals.	68	5			1	1	4	23	34	

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1947 Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 wks & under 3 months	3 mths & under 6 months	6 mths & under 9 months	9 mths & under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 Year
All causes (Certified 5										
(Un- " 0										
Small-pox.										
Chicken-pox.										
Measles.										
Scarlet Fever.										
Whooping Cough.										
Diphtheria & Croup.										
Erysipelas.										
Tuberculous Meningitis.										
Adbominal Tuberculosis.										
Other Tuberculous Dis.										
Meningitis (not Tuberculous).										
Convulsions.										
Laryngitis.										
Bronchitis.										
Pneumonia (all forms).										
Diarrhoea.										
Enteritis.										
Gastritis.										
Syphilis.										
Rickets.										
Suffocation, overlying.										
Injury at Birth.										
Atelectasis.										
Congenital Malformations.	1		1		2	1				
Premature Birth.	2				2					
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus.										
Gastro Enteritis.										
Other Causes.										
Totals	3		1		4	1				5

Nett Births registered during the calendar year - legitimate 90
" " " " " " " - illegitimate 6
Nett Deaths " " " " " - legitimate infants 5
" " " " " " " - illegitimate infants 0

Still-births - legitimate 2, illegitimate 0.

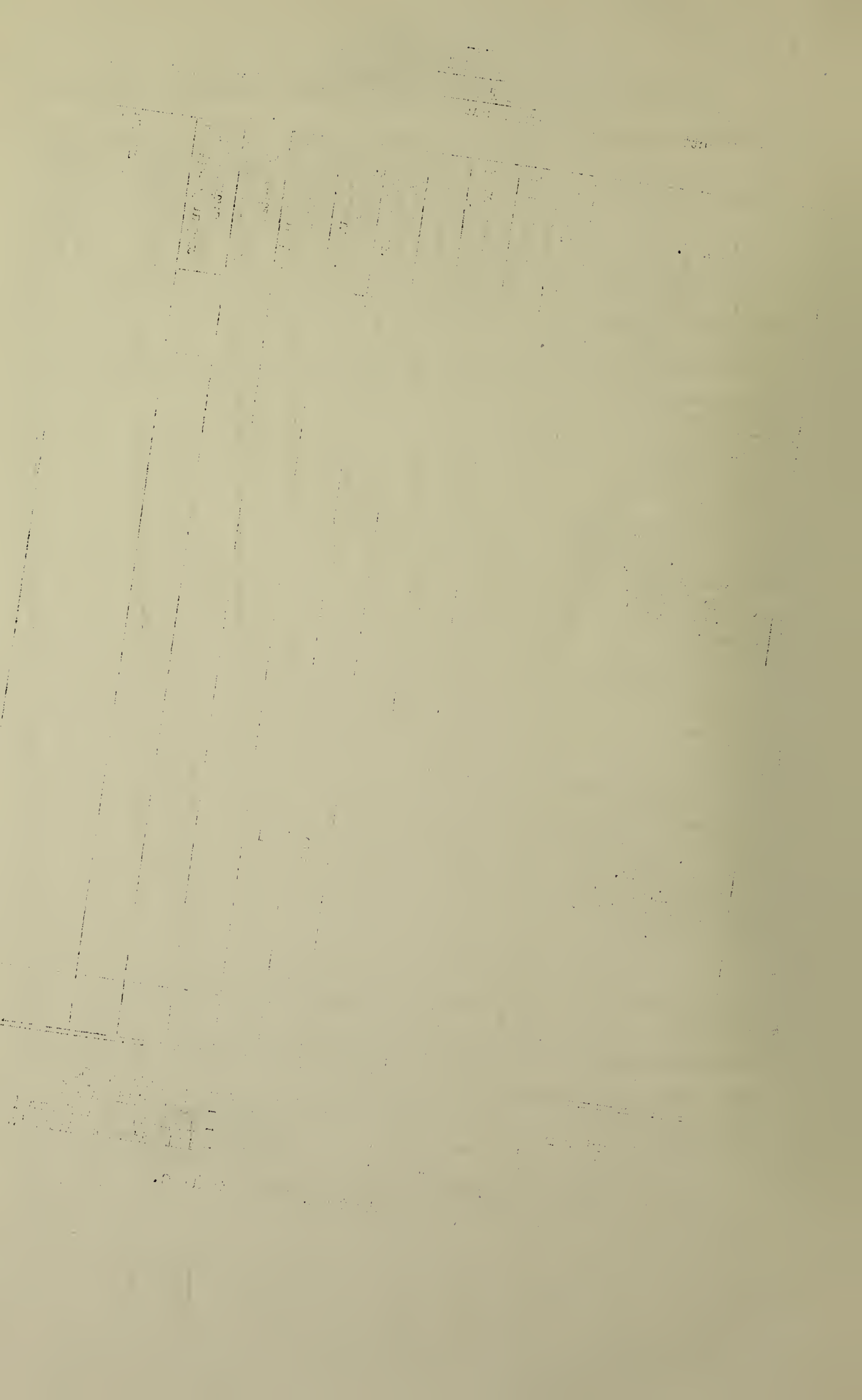

TABLE V.- Notifications of Infectious Diseases.

Year	Small-pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric	Puerperal	Erysipelas	Phthisis	Other forms of Tuberculosis	Pneumonia	Measles	Whooping Cough	TOTAL
1945		5	13			1				126	19	164
1946		2	12							1	9	23
1947			2						3	15	4	24

TABLE V1
Deaths from Special Diseases.

Year	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Enteric	Diarrhoea	Phthisis	Puerperal	Erysipelas	Other forms of Tuberculosis	TOTAL
1945							1		4		1	6
1946				1				3				4
1947												0

TABLE V11 (a)
Number of Cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year ended Dec 31st 1947

	0 to 1 M.F.	1 to 5 M.F.	5 to 10 M. F.	10 to 15 M. F.	15 to 20 M. F.	20 to 25 M. F.	25 to 35 M.F.	35 to 45 M. F.	45 to 55 M. F.	55 to 65 M. F.	65 and Upwd M. F.	Totals M. F.
Pul-monary					1				1			2
Non-Pul-monary		1		1								2

Transfers from other areas.

Pul-monary												Nil

TABLE V11 (b)
Deaths from Tuberculosis registered during the year ended Dec 31st 1947.

	0 to 1 M. F.	1 to 5 M. F.	5 to 10 M.F.	10 to 15 M. F.	15 to 20 M.F.	20 to 25 M. F.	25 to 35 M. F	35 to 45 M. F.	45 to 55 M. F.	55 to 65 M. F.	65 and Upwd M.F.	Total. M. F.
Pul-monary								1				1
Non-Pul-monary		1										1

Notification is perfectly satisfactory. The register at the end of 1947 showed as follows :-

Pulmonary Cases	Males 9	15	27
	Females 6		
Non Pulmonary Cases	Males 4	12	
	Females 8		

No persons suffering from Tuberculosis were found to be engaged in food supply or distribution.
No action under Sect. 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

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SECTION B.

The foregoing tables give many details and I have added footnotes to them, as hospital and laboratory facilities remain unchanged, I need only add short references to :-

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

There were 776 attendances at the centre. This is an average of 65 per session.

Two district nurses employed by the Knutsford Nursing Association do the Health Visiting and the Council pay the Association for their services.

Total visits paid during the year by the Health Visitors are as follows :-

(1)	To expectant mothers -	first visits	7 -	total visits	20
(2)	To children under 1 year of age -	" "	79 -	" "	519
(3)	To children between 1 and 5 years -			" "	254
		TOTAL VISITS			793

ANTE-NATAL SCHEME.

Apart from the visits by the Health Visitor to expectant mothers, there is a considerable increase in the number of mothers who are medically examined under the scheme and at least half now avail themselves of these facilities.

Thirty eight expectant mothers were ante-natally examined during the year under arrangements made by the Council with private medical practitioners.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

WATER.

The district is supplied with water by the Knutsford Light & Water Company who buy from Manchester Corporation. The water is soft with low salinity and is of exceptionally high degree of organic purity. An extension of the water mains was effected during the year to supply water to two new Housing Schemes at Thorneyholme and Westfield Drive.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION AND SCAVENGING.

All ashbins are emptied and cleansed fortnightly, a certain number being emptied weekly, whilst bins at the hotels and large shops are emptied twice weekly.

CAMPING SITES.

There are no licenced camping sites in the district and the number of gypsies camping on road sides has reduced to practically nil.

SWIMMING BATHS & POOLS.

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths in the town.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

No nuisances have arisen in respect of tents, vans, sheds, etc.

THE ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the general inspection of the district one house was found to be infested with bugs. This house was treated with insecticide and effectively cleared. The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Council's workmen under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

All the sewerage from the Urban District is carried by gravitating sewers to the Disposal Works on the North East boundary of the town, where the treatment has been carried out quite satisfactorily during the past year. A new sewer has been laid to receive the sewage from the new Thorneyholme Housing Estate and will provide drainage facilities for some 126 proposed houses on this Estate. The sewers for the Westfield Drive Estate were laid as the houses were built.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary conditions and water supply at the schools are above suspicion as to the cause of infectious disease. The lavatory accommodation and closets are regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector, and all elementary schools are disinfected during the summer holidays.

The resurfacing of the Egerton school playground was carried out by the Surveyor's Department during the year, and the cost of same recovered from Tatton Estate. It is hoped to carry out further playground improvements in a similar manner at an early date.

SECTION D - HOUSING.

The construction of new houses got well into stride during the year, and 40 houses of the Westfield Drive Scheme of 48 houses have been completed and occupied, with the remaining 8 houses in an advanced state. The Council's new Estate at Thorneyholme has been effectively laid out and the planning of the first 76 houses has been approved by the Ministry of Health. Three contractors were engaged on house building on this site during the year, and at the end of December 10 houses had been completed and occupied whilst a further 40 were in course of erection.

Private licences have been issued allowing the erection of 23 houses, and during the year 18 have been completed whilst a further 5 were in course of erection.

In addition to these additional houses, three existing houses have been converted into seven seperate occupations, and the outbuildings to two large houses have been adapted as cottages.

Taking all things into account the Council has done a good job of work in connection with housing, and they are hoping to have more houses in course of erection during 1948, as the waiting list of would-be tenants is over 300 applicants.

The usual routine inspection of privately owned houses was carried out, and many defects were discovered which were all remedied as a result of informal action by the Sanitary Inspector.

Generally speaking the housing conditions in the town are satisfactory, with only a small number of sub-standard houses of which the Council are fully aware.

SECTION - E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

During the year the farms and dairies have been visited at various times, and continue to be kept in a satisfactory manner.

The sampling of the milk is undertaken by the Weights & Measures Department of the County Council, but no cases of adulterations were reported during the year.

VETERINARY INSPECTION OF CATTLE.

The veterinary inspection of cattle is not now carried out by the County Council. Seperate statistics are not kept for the various districts regarding milk samples for bacterial content and tubercle bacilli

but the County Medical Officer confirms that samples of milk have been examined from each farm holding an accredited licence.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

All the slaughter houses in the area are closed and no animals have been slaughtered in the area during the year. The various butchers in the town receive their supplies from the allocation depot at Altrincham.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 14 bakehouses in use in the district. These premises have been inspected periodically during the year, and notices requesting the occupiers to limewash the walls have been served at stated periods, and as occasion has required. The premises have been kept clean generally, and have been limewashed in accordance with the regulations.

SECTION F. - INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Immunisation against diphtheria has gone ahead during the year and the total number of children under 15 years of age which have received immunisation now amounts to 771 out of an estimated total of 1315.

Only one case of diphtheria has been notified during the year.

SANITARY STAFF.

This is unchanged. I wish to express my thanks to Mr.Butler, the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, for his excellent work throughout the year, also for his assistance in compiling this report. - My thanks are also recorded for the courtesy and help of Mrs. A. Johnson, the Clerk-Typist in the Health Department.

E. M. BURRELL,

M.B., Ch. B.,

APPENDIX II

NATIONAL HEALTH ACT SERVICES AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

A. Services provided in accordance with the requirements of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

I. Hospital Services.

Controlling Body - Manchester Regional Hospital Board.
Local Hospitals - Governed by North West and Mid Cheshire Hospital Management Committee.
Secretary - Mr. E.A.Biden, Administrative Offices, Altrincham Maternity Home, Sinderland Road.

Hospitals serving this area -

General Acute Cases - Cottage Hospital, Knutsford.
Altrincham General Hospital.
General Chronic Cases - Cranford Lodge, Knutsford.

Other chronic cases are generally taken to -
Arclid Hospital, Sandbach) South
The Barony Hospital, Nantwich) Cheshire.

Maternity Hospital - Altrincham Maternity Hospital, Sinderland Road.
Southfields, Langham Road, Bowdon.
West Park Hospital, Macclesfield.

Ear, Nose & Throat - St. Annes Home, Woodville Road, Altrincham.

Infectious Diseases - Davenham Isolation Hospital, Northwich.

A large number of cases from Knutsford are treated in the Manchester Hospitals.

II. General Practitioner and General Dental Services.

Controlling Body - National Health Service Executive Council for Cheshire.
Clerk - Mr. F. Hayter, 28 Nicholas Street, Chester.

III. Services of Local Health Authority - Cheshire County Council.

1. Ambulance Service.
2. Immunisation and Vaccination.
3. Care and After Care.
4. Maternity and Child Welfare.
5. Domiciliary Midwifery and District Nursing.
6. Dental Service - Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Pre-School Children.
7. Home Help Service.
8. Mental Health Service - Duly Authorised Officer for Mental Health Mr. Dixon, 18 Stanley Road, Knutsford.

These services are administered partly by the County Health Committee and are partly under the control of the Divisional Health Committee.

The Divisional Health Committee area covers Hale U.D.C., Bowdon U.D.C., Altrincham M.B., Knutsford U.D.C. and Bucklow R.D.C., and consists members of these Authorities, members of the County Council, and Co-opted Members.

Divisional Medical Officer - [illegible] Longbottom, The Mount, Altrincham.
Tel No. ALT. 1733.